

THE SMOKY HILL AND REPUBLICAN UNION.

"WE JOIN OURSELVES TO NO PARTY THAT DOES NOT CARRY THE FLAG, AND KEEP STEP TO THE MUSIC OF THE UNION."

By Blakely & Martin.

JUNCTION, DAVIS CO., KANSAS, THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1862.

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A SOLDIER'S LETTER AND A WOMAN'S ANSWER.

HOSPITAL, April —
I write with a great deal of pain, dear girl,
I've not been able before since the fight,
And my brain is still so much in a whirl,
That I can tell you but little to-night.
I'm wounded—don't start—'tis not very bad,
Or at least it might be worse; so I said
When I thought of you, "I'm sure she'll be glad
To know that I'm only wounded—not dead."

I've lost my left arm—there, now you know all;
A Minnie ball shattered it, and I fell;
The last that I heard was our Captain's call,
Until—the rest is too painful to tell.
I've had throughout the most excellent care,
And I'm doing finely the Surgeon says;
So well, indeed, that the prospect is fair
For a homeward trip before many days.

But I've something else, dear Mary, to say,
And I'd say it if it cost me my life:
I've thought of it well—there's no other way—
You're released from your promise to be my wife:
You'll think me foolish at first; then you'll think
Of the loose, armless coat sleeve at my side;
And your proud and sensitive heart will shrink
From the thought of being a cripple's bride.

'Tis a bitter struggle to give you up,
For I've loved you more than ever of late;
But down to its dregs I've drained the cup,
And I'm calm, though my heart is desolate.
I'm coming home, and of course we must meet;
My darling, this once, one boon I implore—
Let us still be friends—for that will be sweet,
Since now, alas! we can be nothing more.

SWEET HOME, April —
My Robert, how brave and bold you are!
Too brave and too noble, I know for me;
But you're too little faith in my far,
If you believe that I want to be free.
I'm not released from my promise—no, no!
'Twas never so sacred to me before;
If you could but know how I've longed to go
And watch by your side, you'd doubt me no more.

I read your name in the terrible list,
But the tears froze back that sprang to my eye;
A fearful pain that I could not resist,
Crushed my heart till I only longed to die.
The blessed tears, by-and-by, came again,
And I felt, as you in your letter said,
A feeling of gladness 'mid all my pain,
That Robert was only wounded—not dead.

Oh, darling! to think you have suffered so,
And I, all those long, weary miles away;
You've needed me very often I know,
While I could do nothing but hope and pray.
But hardest of all is the bitter thought
That you have been suffering so much for me;
Poor Robert! your manly letter has brought
A strange mélange of joy and misery.

But you're coming home to my arms and heart;
You're right—I am proud and sensitive, too;
But I'm only so when we are apart,
And now I shall only be proud of you!
I want the moment of blissful calm,
When I shall be held to a Soldier's breast
By a Patriot-Hero's one strong arm!

A FRENCH ESTIMATE OF THE UNION AND ITS POLICY.

The Paris Journal des Debates of April
30th, has this noteworthy editorial article:
Let those who accuse the North of ambi-
tion and severity be sincere; they would
have overwhelmed the North with their
contempt, (and justly so) if the North had
resigned itself to the ruin of that vast
empire without a struggle. "See," they
would have said, "how democracies are
incapable of defending themselves, and
what cowardice was concealed by the proud
language of those traders of Boston and
New York!" Those who were charged by
a regular election with the heavy responsi-
bility of the Federal Government during
this terrible crisis have not, thank Heaven!
incurred such reproaches; they have not
hesitated a moment in their duty, which
was to perish, arms in their hands, rather
than consent to the destruction of their
country; they have not for a moment ad-
mitted the possibility of a dismemberment
of the republic. They have signified their
resolution not only to the New World, but
also to the Old, where their embarrassment
was looked upon with pleasure, and where
there was a disposition to triumph at their
weakness. They therefore decided on war,
and organized it over an immense territory,
against enemies better prepared and more
warlike, and no check diminished their
courage. They have at last brought things
to the point at which we see them now,
overcoming that difficulty of distance which
had been declared to be insurmountable,
and seeking at the same time at Richmond,
New Orleans and Charleston, if not the
immediate re-establishment of concord, at
least the end of the revolt and the welfare
of the country. And during the darkest
days of this civil war, openly encouraged
abroad, when their reverses were the severest,
with the enemy at the gates of the capital,
and treason within their walls, they did
not act against a single suspected person,
nor put to death a single guilty one; they
have only shed blood on the field of battle,
where volunteers, and volunteers alone,
give their lives daily for this just cause.
That is the spectacle which we, Frenchmen,
grandsons of the glorious founders of that republic, now contemplate
not with a complete indifference, but with
that relaxed attention and in that state be-
tween sleeping and waking which renders
us incapable of all great emotion. But
posterity, which puts everything in its
right place, will compare the defense of the
soil of France 1792 with that sanguinary
redemption of the American republic, which
appeared for an instant about to perish, to
the great detriment of France, and to the
joy of the enemies of free institutions all
over the universe.

It is suggested that the Dismal
Swamp affords an appropriate "last ditch"
for the rebel army in Virginia.

THE HOMESTEAD BILL.

The following is a correct copy of the
Homestead Bill, as passed by both Houses
of Congress, and signed by the President:
AN ACT to secure Homesteads to Actual Settlers
on the Public Domain, and to Provide a Bounty
for Soldiers in lieu of Grants of the Public
Lands.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of
Representatives of the United States of
America in Congress assembled: That any person
who is the head of a family, or who
has arrived at the age of twenty-one years,
and is a citizen of the United States, or who
shall have filed his declaration of intention
to become such, as required by the natural-
ization laws of the United States, and who
has never borne arms against the United
States Government, or given aid and com-
fort to its enemies, shall, from and after
the 1st of January, 1863, be entitled to
enter one quarter section, or a less quantity,
of unappropriated Public Lands, upon which
said person may have filed a pre-emption
claim, or which may, at the time the applica-
tion is made, be subject to pre-emption at
\$1.25 per acre, or eighty acres or less of
such unappropriated lands, at \$2.50 per
acre, to be located in a body, in conformity
to the legal subdivisions of the public lands,
and after the same shall have been sur-
veyed: Provided, That any person owning
and residing on land may, under the pro-
visions of this act, enter other land lying
contiguous to his or her said land, which
shall not, with the land so already owned
and occupied, exceed in the aggregate 160
acres.

SECTION 2. And be it further enacted,
That the person applying for the benefit of
this act shall, upon application to the Re-
gister of Land Office in which he or she is
about to make said entry, make affidavit
before said Register or Receiver, that he or
she is the head of a family, or is twenty-one
years or more of age, or shall have per-
formed service in the army of the United
States, or have never given aid or comfort
to its enemies, and that such application is
made for his or her exclusive use and
benefit, and that said entry is made for the
purpose of actual settlement and cultivation,
and, either directly or indirectly, for the
use or benefit of any other person or persons
whomsoever; and upon filing the said affi-
davit with the Register or Receiver, and on
payment of \$10, he or she shall thereupon
be permitted to enter the quantity of land
specified; Provided, however, that no cer-
tificate shall be given or patent issued
therefor until the expiration of five years
from the date of such entry; and if, at the
expiration of such time, or at any time
within two years thereafter, the person mak-
ing such entry—or if he be dead, his
widow; or in case of her death his heirs or
devises; or in case of a widow making such
entry, her heir or devisee, in case of her
death—shall prove by two credible witnesses
that he, she, or they may have resided upon
or cultivated the same for the term of five
years immediately succeeding the time of
filing the affidavit aforesaid, and shall make
affidavit that no part of said land has been
alienated, and that he has borne true alle-
giance to the Government of the United
States; then, in such case, he, she, or they,
if at that time a citizen of the United
States, shall be entitled to a patent, as in
other cases provided by law: and provided,
further, That in case of the death of brother
father and mother, leaving an infant child,
or children under twenty-one years of age,
the right and fee shall inure to the benefit
of said infant child, or children; and an
executor, administrator or guardian, may,
at any time within two years after the death
of the surviving parent, and in accordance
with the laws of the State in which such
children for the time being have their domicil,
sell said land for the benefit of said
infants, but for no other purpose, and the
purchaser shall acquire the absolute title
by purchase and be entitled to a patent
from the United States, on payment of the
office fees and sum of money herein speci-
fied.

SECTION 3. And be it further enacted,
That the Register of the Land Office shall
note all such application on the tract books
and plats of his office, and keep a register
of all such entries, and make return thereof
to the General Land Office, together with
the proof upon which they have been
founded.

SECTION 4. And be it further enacted, That
no lands acquired under the provisions of
this act shall in any event become liable to
the satisfaction of any debt or debts con-
tracted prior to the issuing of the patent
therefor.

SECTION 5. And be it further enacted, That
if, at any time after the filing of the affi-
davit, as required in the second section of
this act, and before the expiration of the
five years aforesaid, it shall be proven, after
due notice to the settler, to the satisfaction
of the Register of the Land Office, that the
person having filed such affidavit shall have
actually changed his or her former resi-
dence, or abandoned the said land, shall
have ceased to occupy the said land for
more than six months at any time, then, in
that event, the land so entered shall revert
to the Government.

SECTION 6. And be it further enacted, That
no individual shall be permitted to acquire
title to more than one quarter section under
the provisions of this act; and that the
Commissioner of the General Land is here-
by required to prepare and issue such rules
and regulations, consistent with this act, as

shall be necessary and proper to carry its
provisions into effect; and that the Re-
gisters and Receivers of the several land
offices shall be entitled to receive the same
compensation for any lands entered under
the provisions of this act that they are now
entitled to receive when the same quantity
of land is entered with money, one half to
be paid by the person making the applica-
tion at the time of so doing, and the other
half on the issue of the certificate by the
person to whom it may be issued; but this
shall not be construed to enlarge the maxi-
mum of compensation now prescribed by
law for any Register or Receiver: provided,
That nothing contained in this act shall be
so construed as to impair or interfere in
any manner whatever with existing pre-
emption rights; and provided further, that
all persons who may have filed their applica-
tion for pre-emption right prior to the
passage of this act, shall be entitled to all
privileges of this act; provided, further,
That no person who has served, or may
hereafter serve for a period of not less than
fourteen days in the army or navy of the
United States, either regular or volunteer,
under the laws thereof, during the existence
of an actual war, domestic or foreign, shall
be deprived of the benefit of this act on
account of not having attained the age of
twenty-one years.

SECTION 7. And be it further enacted, That
the fifth section of the act entitled, "An
Act in Addition to an Act more effectually
to provide for the punishment of certain
Crimes against the United States, and for
other Purposes," approved 3d of March, in
the year 1857, shall extend to all oaths,
affirmations and affidavits authorized by
this act.

SECTION 8. And be it further enacted, That
nothing in this act shall be so construed as
to prevent any person who has availed him-
self or herself of the benefit of the first
section of this act from paying the mini-
mum price, or the price to which the same
may have graduated, for the quantity of
land so entered at any time before the expi-
ration of the five years, and obtaining a
patent therefor from the Government, as in
other cases provided by law, on making
proof of settlement and cultivation as
provided by existing laws granting pre-emption
rights.

A BIT OF SERIOUS FOOLISHNESS.

Is it possible that nothing can be said of
this country too absurd to be believed in
England? The Saturday Review, of
London, lays gravely before its readers
the following astonishing facts:

"It is said that the Legislature of Iowa,
on the receipt of the news from Fort Don-
elson, passed by acclamation an act to sus-
pend the liquor law during twenty-four
hours, for the purpose of celebrating the
victory with becoming enthusiasm. Both
Houses, with their presiding officers at their
head, then accompanied the Governor to
some convenient resort, where, notwith-
standing the temperance institutions of that
virtuous State, alcoholic drinks were forth-
coming with unaccountable readiness. The
reporter leaves the representatives of the
people sprawling in various attitudes about
the door of the tavern."

Some wag who wished to play off a pleas-
antry upon the Iowa Legislature, set going
a laughable paragraph, somewhat like the
first sentence in the above extract. Of
course, while the American reader smiled,
and never dreamed of believing it, John
Bull, who has a very poor head for a joke,
took every word in solid earnest; and an
English literary organ, edited by a bevy of
aristocrats, made it the text of its only
article on American affairs. O, John Bull!

BETTER THAN A MAN.—It is well known
that all ladies have an intense admiration
for a sewing machine, and their delight in
the possession of one calls out enthusiastic
terms of praise. A lady called at Wheeler
& Wilson's sewing machine agency to pur-
chase, and inquiring for some one who had
a machine of whom she could learn of its
merits, was, among others, referred to a
lady then present, a quiet, demure looking
maiden lady. Upon being questioned, this
individual at first replied with modest re-
serve, but finally the all-absorbing delight
every sewing machine proprietress inevi-
tably feels, got the better of her diffidence,
and she warmly eulogized the object of the
inquiry; and finally her eyes brightened,
her cheek grew rosy, and she sprang to her
feet, and with an energetic voice said:
"Like my sewing machine? to be sure I
do! Why, I wouldn't begin to exchange it
for a man!"

A young lady applied to a Doctor
for advice as she was suffering from chills
and loss of appetite. He gave the follow-
ing prescription: "Take a warm double
Scotch shawl and apply it immediately
around the shoulders and chest; add a
stout flannel petticoat."

Who wonders that our army at Pitts-
burg Landing fought like heroes? We see
that seven hundred dollars' worth of post-
age stamps were sold at the Pittsburgh post
office one day last week. Educated armies
make the best fighting armies.

In private watch your thoughts.
In the family watch your temper. In com-
pany watch your tongue.

To make whiskey sling—Throw the
whiskey around pretty freely.

METHUSELAH WAS ONLY A YOUNGSTER.

Most people have been accustomed to
regard Methuselah as rather an old man, as
the good book says he lived to be nine hun-
dred and sixty-nine years old, when he died.
But as compared with the people of which
accounts are given by the sacred writings
of India, he was only a green stripling.
Mr. Buckle, referring to the statements in
the Sanscrit books on the subject, says,
"The imagination of Hindus distanced all
competition. Among an immense number
of similar facts, we find it recorded that in
ancient time, the duration of life of common
men was 80,000 years, and that holy men
lived to be upwards of 100,000. Some
died a little sooner, others a little later;
but in the most flourishing period of anti-
quity, if we take all the classes together,
100,000 years was the average. Of the
King whose name was Yudishohir, it is
usually mentioned that he reigned 27,000
years; while another, Alarka, reigned
66,000 years. They were out off in their
prime, since there were several instances of
early poets living to be half a million.
But the most remarkable case is that of a
very shining character in Indian history,
who united in his person the functions of a
king and saint. This eminent man lived
in a poor and virtuous age, and his days
were indeed long in the land, since when
he was made king he was 2,000,000 years
old; he reigned 6,300,000 years, having
done which he resigned his empire, and
lingered on for 100,000 years more, when
he died. Who will say after this that Me-
thuselah was any thing more than an ex-
ceedingly juvenile individual? The San-
scrit writings, it will be remembered, are
regarded as sacredly by the East Indians as
the Bible is by our people.

OUR TEETH.

They decay. Hence, unseemly mouths,
bad breath, imperfect mastication. Every-
body regrets it. What is the cause? I
reply, want of cleanliness. A clean tooth
never decays. The mouth is a warm place
—98 degrees. Particles of meat between
the teeth soon decompose. Gums and
teeth must suffer.

Perfect cleanliness will preserve the teeth
to old age. How shall it be secured? Use
a quill pick, and rinse the mouth after
eating. Brush and Castile soap every
morning; the brush and simple water on
going to bed. Bestow this trifling care
upon your precious teeth, you will keep
them and ruin the dentists. Neglect it and
you will be sorry all your lives. Children
forget. Watch them. The first teeth
determine the character of the second set.
Give them equal care.

Sugar, acids, saleratus, and food things
are nothing when compared with food de-
composing between the teeth. Mercu-
rialization may loosen the teeth, long use may
wear them out, but keep them clean and
they will never decay. This advice is worth
more than thousands of dollars to every
boy and girl.

Books have been written on the subject.
This brief article contains all that is essen-
tial.

EVEN BEAUREGARD.

From the tone of the Southern papers,
it is evident the rebels are beginning to
lose faith in Beauregard. Why they ever
had any in him is a marvel. Jeff. Davis,
as is well known, cannot abide him, and
keeps him in command only because of his
assumed popularity with the "ignorant
multitude." While eulogizing the dead
Johnson for his conduct at the battle of
Shiloh, Davis was careful not to say a word
in praise of the living Beauregard; and he
was certainly justified by the history of that
battle, for Johnson, who commanded on the
first day, was victorious, while Beauregard
was most indubitably beaten on the second
day. And so, too, of Bull Run; Beaure-
gard was defeated until Johnson came up,
and he it was who turned the tide of battle.
Indeed, the only live Southern General who
has shown marked capacity in this war is
Sterling Price, of Missouri. As for Beau-
regard, he is a pretentious humbug, and as
such is a fair representative man of the
Southern Confederacy.

In the ruins of Herculaneum—a
city buried three thousand years ago by an
eruption of Vesuvius—the excavations are
going on. Toward the latter end of Decem-
ber last, two sculptured figures of lions
were found in that town, half a metre long
and carved in marble. The style was Gre-
cian, of a high order of art. Other inter-
esting objects have been recovered, such as
fragments of buried wooden furniture,
chairs, boxes, coffers, constructed of bam-
boo cane, grindstones, &c.

STRONG.—The Nashville Union says:
The revolt of the fallen angels from the
skies made a Hell in the spirit world, and
the revolt of eleven States from the banner
of the Union would make a Hell upon
earth, whose eternal wrath and despair
would never be cheered by the song of hope,
and whose endless night would never be
bold the morning of redemption.

I have always thanked God, says an
old philosopher, that I was not born a wo-
man, seeing her the bestower rather than
the enjoyer of happiness—the flower crown-
ed sacrifice offered up to the human lord of
the creation.

SWEARING A CONTRABAND.

Company K, of the First Iowa Cavalry,
stationed in Tennessee, lately received into
their camp a middle-aged but vigorous con-
traband. Innumerable questions were
being propounded to him, when a corporal
advanced, observing, "See here, Dixie,
before you can enter the service of the
United States you must be sworn." "Yes,
massa, I do dat," he replied; when the
corporal continued: "Well, then, take hold
of the Bible," holding out a letter envelope,
upon which was delineated the Goddess of
Liberty, standing on a Suffolk pig, wearing
the emblem of our country. The negro
grasped the envelope cautiously between
his thumb and finger, when the corporal
proceeded to administer the oath by saying:
"You do solemnly swear that you will sup-
port the Constitution of the United States,
and see that there are no grounds floating
upon the coffee at all times." "Yes, massa
I do dat," he replied, "I allers settle him
in de coffee pot." Here he let go the en-
velope to gesticulate, by a downward thrust
of his forefinger, the direction that would
be given to the coffee grounds for the
future. "Never mind how you do it,"
shouted the corporal, "but hold on to the
Bible." "Lordy, massa, I forgot," said
the negro, as he darted forward and grasped
the envelope with a firmer clutch, when the
corporal continued: "And you do solemnly
swear that you will support the
Constitutions of all loyal States, and not
spit upon the plates when cleaning them, or
wipe them with your shirt-sleeves." Here a
frown lowered upon the brow of the ne-
gro, his eyes expanded to their largest
dimensions, while his lips protruded, with a
rounded form, as he exclaimed: "Lordy,
massa, I never do dat. I allers washes him
nice. Ole missis, mighty 'ticular 'bout
dat." "Never mind ole missis," shouted
the corporal, as he resumed: "and you do
solemnly swear that you will put milk into
the coffee every morning, and see that the
ham and eggs are not cooked too much or
too little." "Yes, I see do dat, I see a good
cook." "And lastly," continued the cor-
poral, "you do solemnly swear that when
this war is over you'll make tracks for
Africa mighty fast." "Yes, massa, I do
dat, I allers wanted to go to Cheecargo." Here
the regimental drum beat up for dress
parade, when Tom Benton—that being his
name—was declared duly sworn in and
commissioned as chief cook in Company K,
of the First Iowa Cavalry.

A WESTERN INJUN HUNTER.

A lady from the far West, with her hus-
band, was awakened in the night of their
arrival in the city of Penn by an alarm of
fire, and the yells of several companies of
firemen, as they dashed along the streets.

"Husband! husband!" she cried, shak-
ing her worse half into consciousness;
"only hear the Injuns; why this beats all
the scalp dances I ever heard."

"Nonsense!" growled the gentleman,
composing himself to sleep, "there are no
Indians in Philadelphia."

"No Injuns, indeed!" she replied, "as
if I didn't know a war-whoop when I heard
one!"

The next morning, on descending to
breakfast, they were saluted with the
inquiry of, "Did you hear the engines last
night? what a noise they made!"

Turning to her husband, with an air of
triumph, the lady exclaimed—
"There! I told you they were Injuns!"

FITTING RETORT.—A day or two ago a
Union lady of this city called upon a Scotch
friend of hers, and in the course of the
call was forced to listen to a great deal of
treason, rather than commit a breach of
good manners. On rising to leave, her
attention was attracted by a splendid por-
trait of George Washington, when, getting
into conversation on the subject, she the
rebel, to still further taunt her visitor,
remarked:

"I'll tell you what I'm going to do: I
intend to get fine portraits of Jeff. Davis
and Beauregard, and hang up one on each
side of that."

"Do," said Union, "we read in the
Bible that our Saviour was hung between
two thieves." Scotch wilted.—Louisville
Journal.

All the editors in the Cotton States
are demanding angrily and fiercely why
New Orleans surrendered. Bless your
simple souls, gentlemen, Commodore Far-
ragut expressly requested her to do so.

A definition of "bearing false witness
against your neighbor," was given by
a little girl in school. She said it was
when nobody did nothing, and somebody
went and told it.

Parson Brownlow says there is
only one office in the gift of Government he
would like—that of General Hangman for
East Tennessee.

An old bachelor says that marriage
was instituted for no other purpose than to
prevent men from sleeping diagonally in
bed.

Who is the laziest man? The
furniture dealer; he keeps chairs and
lounges about all the time.

Who are the most dishonest people?
Hardware merchants; they sell iron and
steel for a living.